



Firm-as-a-Rock,
Soft-as-Silk and Sweet-as-Honey



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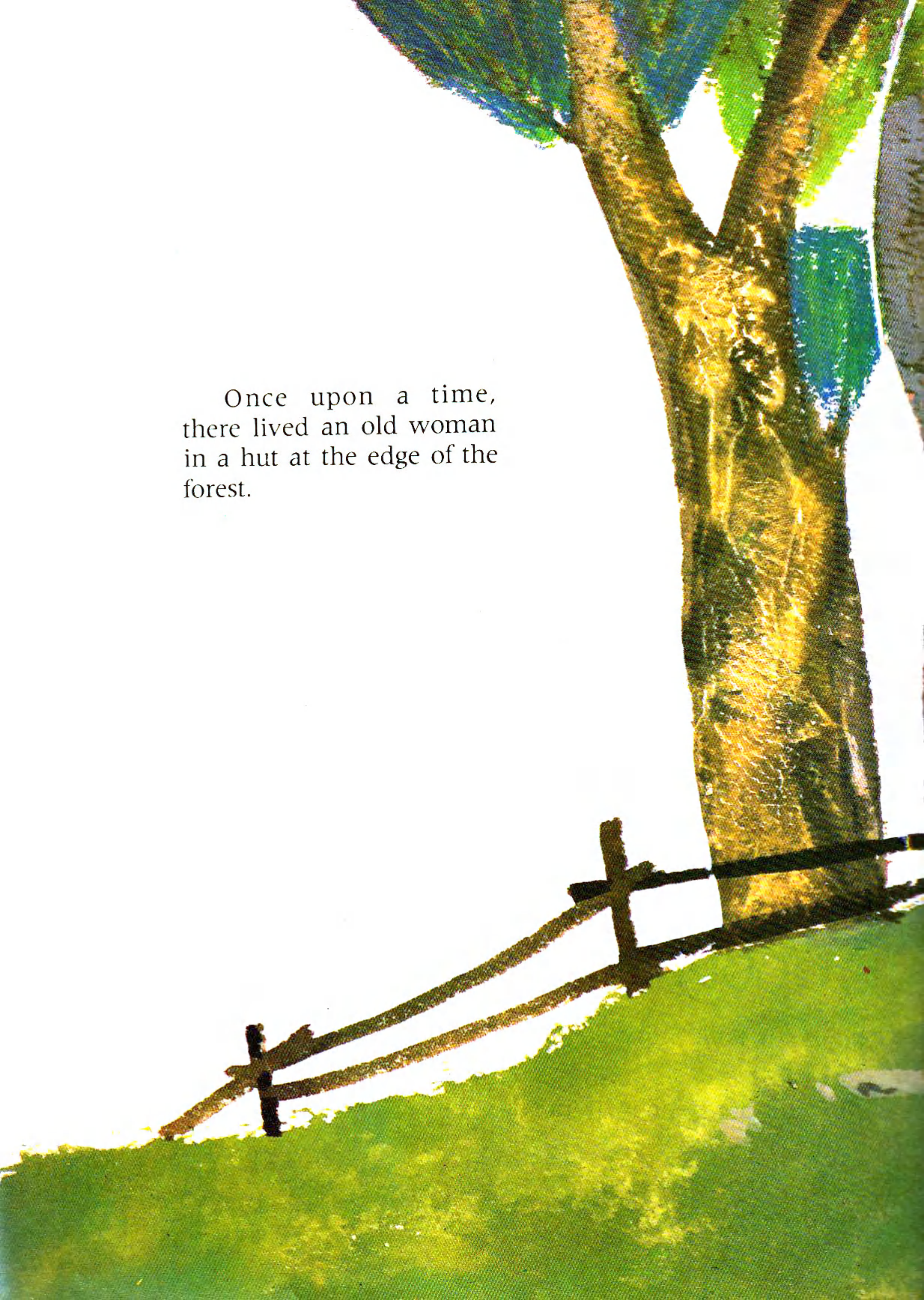


Bulgarian Folk Story

Illustrations: Gencho Denchev

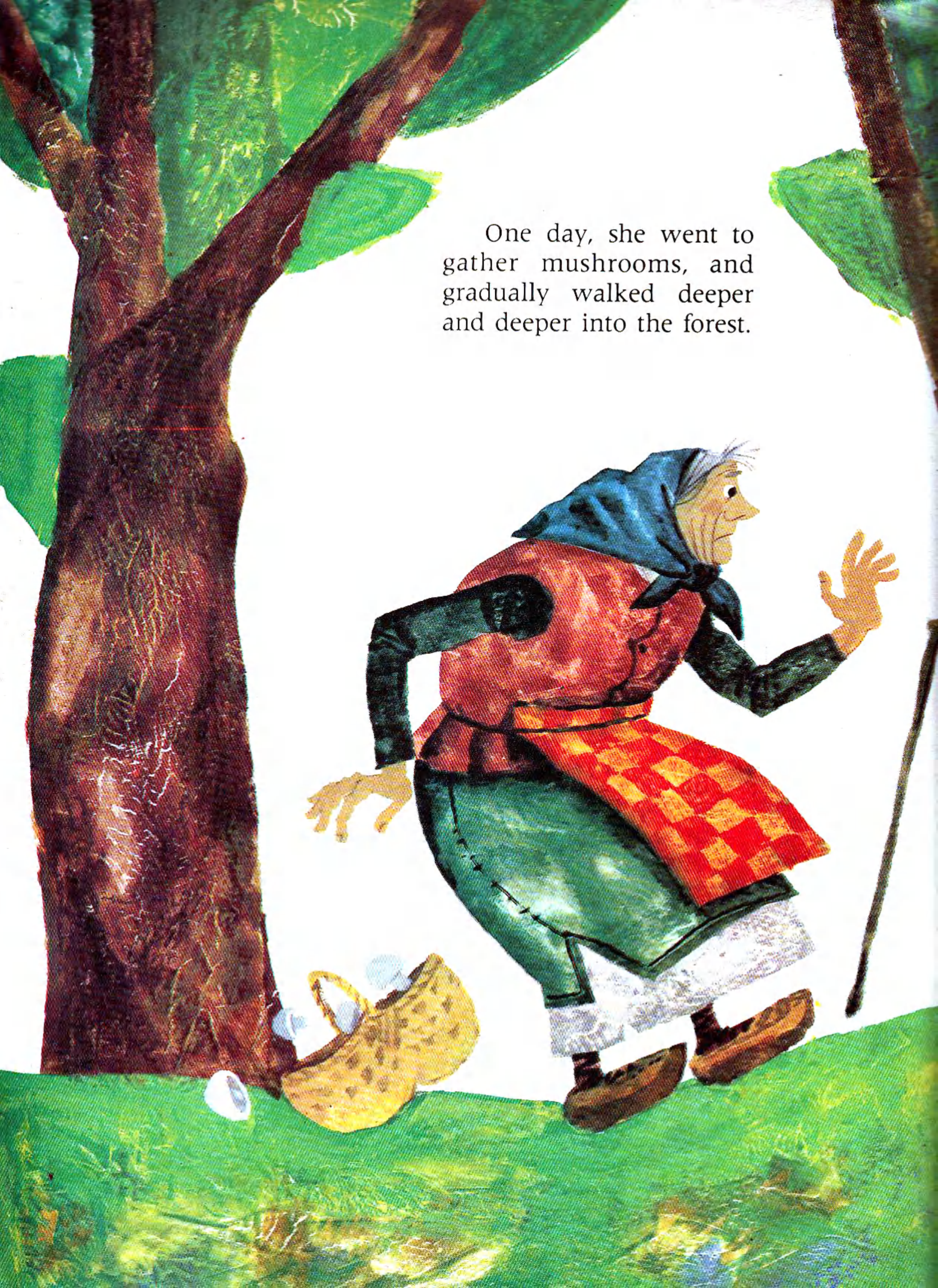
SOFIA PRESS 1974

Once upon a time,
there lived an old woman
in a hut at the edge of the
forest.





One day, she went to
gather mushrooms, and
gradually walked deeper
and deeper into the forest.

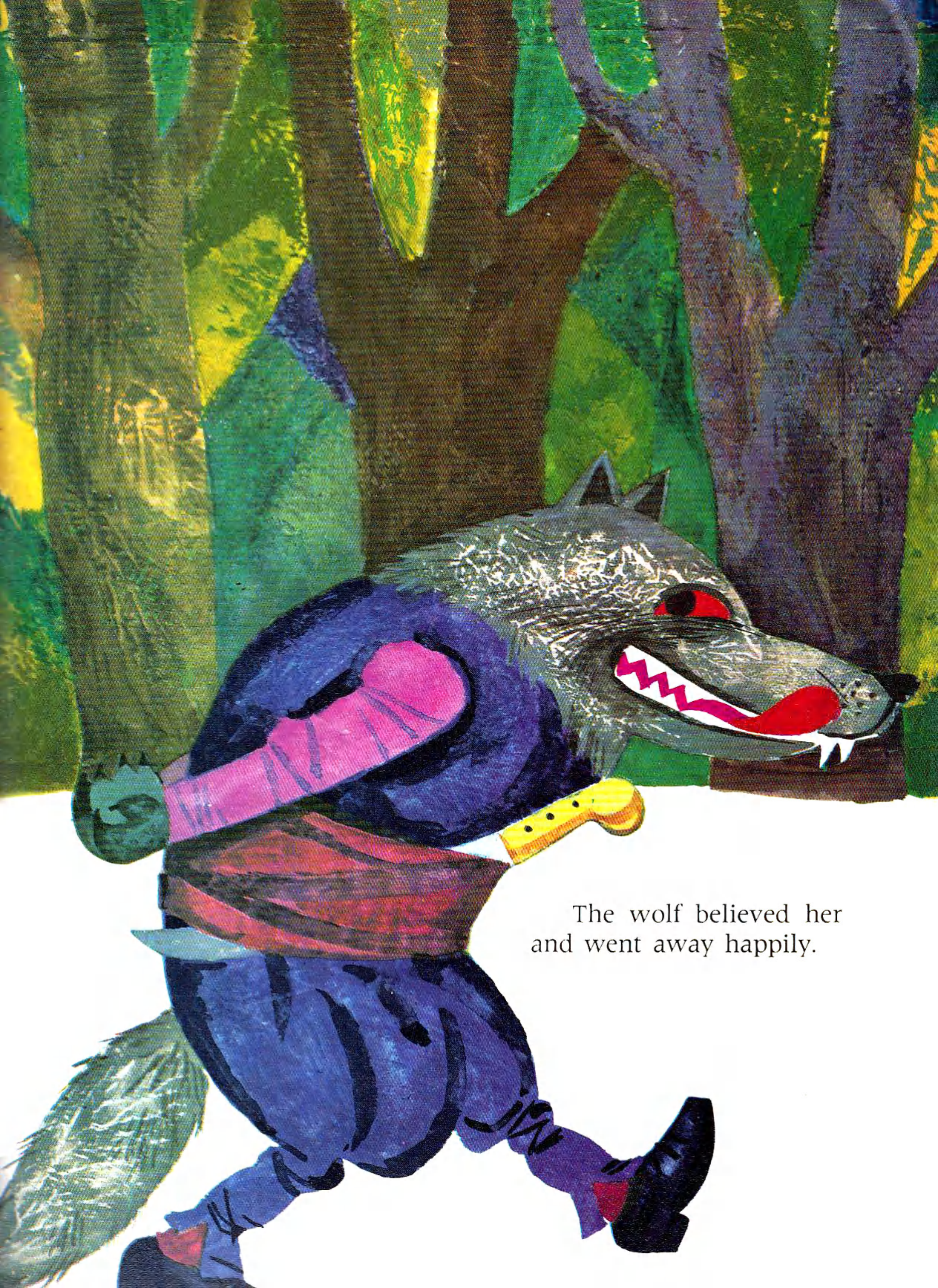




Suddenly, a big, bad wolf blocked her way and said to her: 'I'll eat you!'

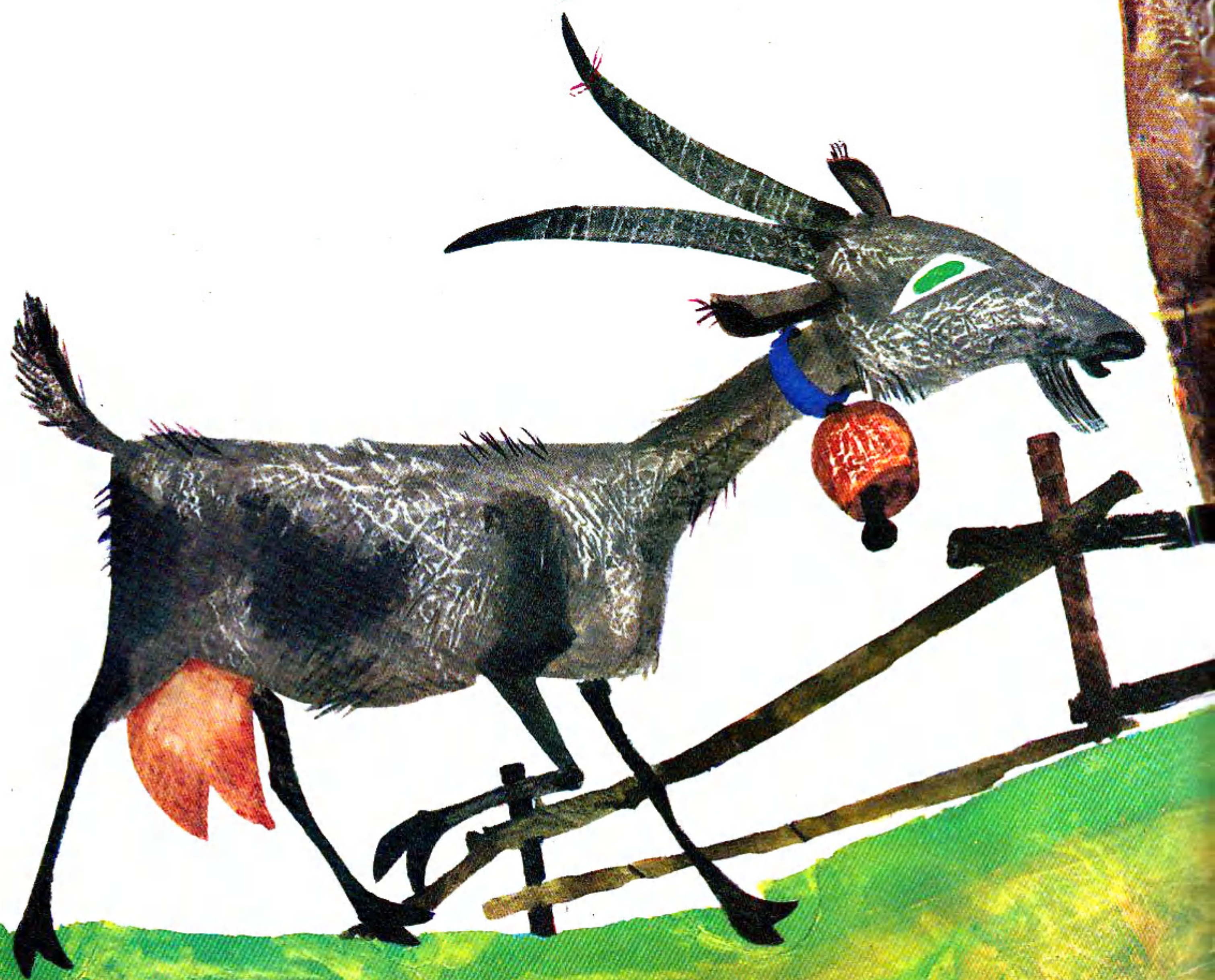
The old woman was very frightened and replied: 'What will you get if you eat me? I am old and skinny. But I have three daughters: Firm-as-a-Rock, Soft-as-Silk and Sweet-as-Honey. Come to my place tonight and I will let you have one of them.'





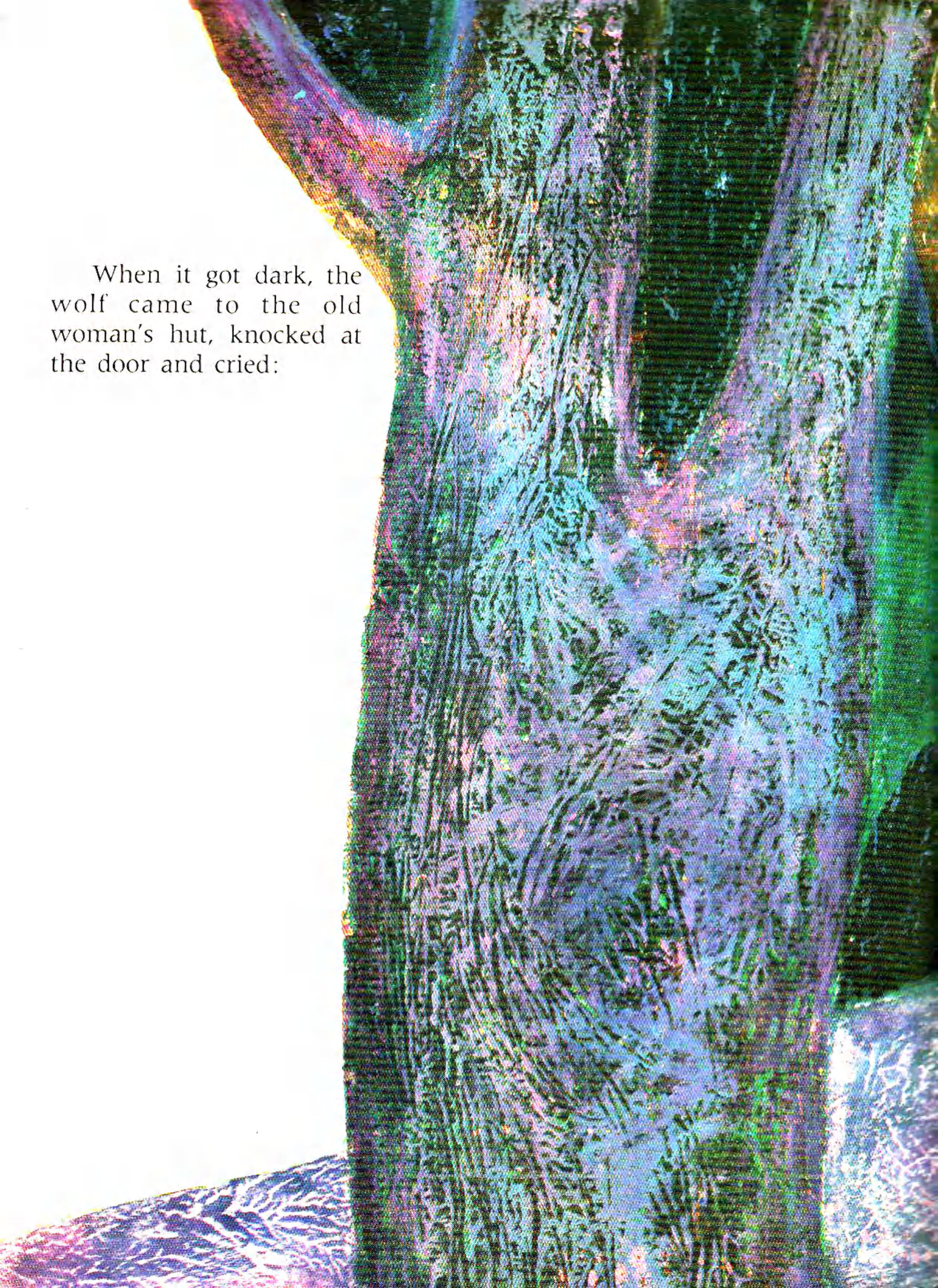
The wolf believed her
and went away happily.

The old woman hurried back home. Early in the evening, she locked her goat in its pen, and took the cat and cock with her in the hut.





When it got dark, the
wolf came to the old
woman's hut, knocked at
the door and cried:







'Grandma, give me
your daughter Firm-as-
a-Rock!'

The old woman re-
plied:

'Grandma has bolted
and barred the door firm as
a rock!'



'Let me have Soft-
as-Silk!'

'Grandma has made
her bed soft as silk.'

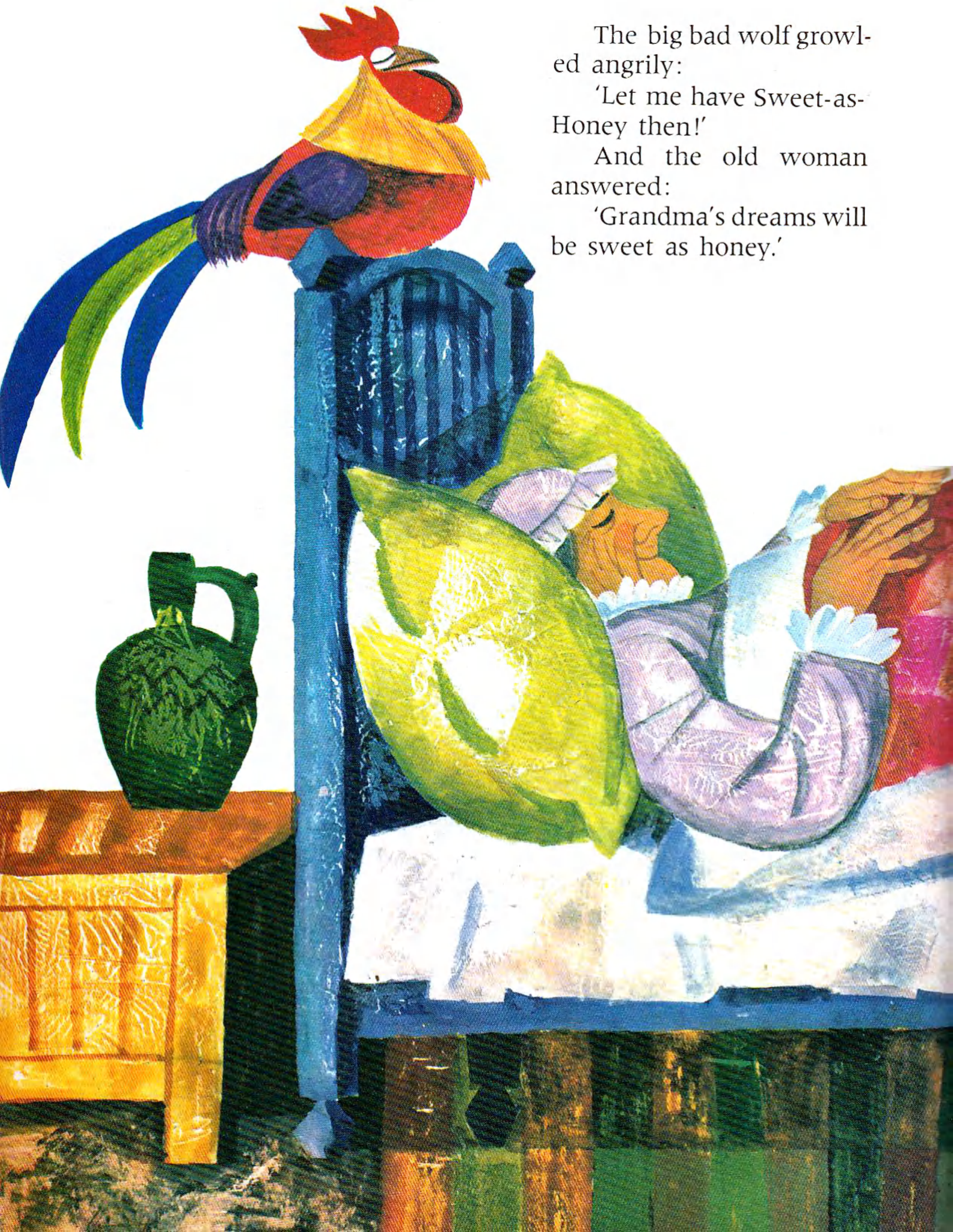


The big bad wolf growled
angrily:

'Let me have Sweet-as-
Honey then!'

And the old woman
answered:

'Grandma's dreams will
be sweet as honey.'







That is how old Grandma outwitted the wolf and saved her life; and the wolf went away into the forest snarling angrily.

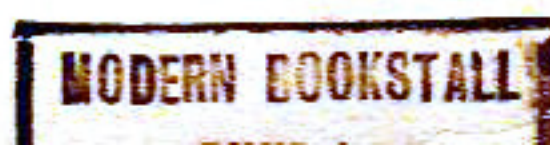
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Bulgarian Folk Story

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Sofia Press Production Centre

PRINTED IN BULGARIA

ДБ – 3





TREASURE HOUR CHILDREN'S BOOKS
Cresta House 146-152 Holloway Road
London No 7 8DE, ISBN
No 0 7196 0320 X

